



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In New York, prices were unchanged when compared to the previous day's values. The market tone was mostly barely steady to weak entering the holiday weekend. Demand was usually in a range of moderate to good. Supplies were balanced to available, at times ample for present requirements. Breaking stock offerings were sufficient for the light demand. Light type hens were fully adequate for the at least moderate demand. Processing schedules were noted as normal to reduced for the upcoming week.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL Prices to producers in IA/MN/WI were 3 cents lower for large and 2 cents lower on medium with the remainder of prices unchanged but trending lower. Trade sentiment was steady to weak. Retail demand was light to very good with food service movement generally light. Supplies were in a full range of balanced to ample. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand was light with offerings adequate. Floor stocks balanced to fully adequate. Trade sentiment mostly steady to instances barely steady.

EXTRA LARGE	45-55	46-52	IA-MN-WI Prices paid to producers. Range Mostly
LARGE	44-54	45-48	
MEDIUM	31-41	33-36	
			LARGE 20-29 24
			MEDIUM 6-12 10
			SMALL 6-10

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV,Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged, however asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending lower on all sizes. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak entering the holiday weekend. Demand into all channels was moderate to good. Supplies ranged adequate to available for full trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were adequate for the light demand. Schedules were noted as mixed. Spent hens were fully adequate for the at least moderate demand. Processing schedules were normal to instances less than normal for the upcoming week.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	55-70	56-59
LARGE	49-63	54-58
MEDIUM	35-48	40-42

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment steady to weak, mostly barely steady. Cartoned egg sales were moderate to good, generally good. Loose egg demand was moderate. Supplies were balanced to adequate with mediums in the longest position. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate for current needs. Demand was mostly light to occasionally moderate. Floor stocks balanced to ample. Schedules full-time to reduced. Trade sentiment mostly steady to barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	58.5-67	60-63
LARGE	56.5-65	58-61
MEDIUM	40.5-49	42-45

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending lower on all sizes. The market tone was barely steady to weak entering the holiday weekend. Retail demand was moderate to good. Supplies were sufficient to available. Breaking stock offerings were adequate for the light demand. Breaking schedules were mixed. Light type fowl were fully sufficient for the at least moderate demand. Processing schedules were reported as normal to instances less than normal.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	53.5-67	55-58
LARGE	52-65	53-56
MEDIUM	37.5-55	38-42

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, Eastern TN, and Southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NEW YORK EGGS Prices were unchanged when compared to the previous day's values. Trade sentiment was barely steady to mostly weak entering the holiday weekend. Demand was moderate to good. Supplies were fully sufficient for trade requirements.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	57-61
LARGE	55-59
MEDIUM	40-44

MIDWEST REGIONAL	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	52-61	54-58
LARGE	51-60	52-54
MEDIUM	38-47	41-43

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WESTERN REGIONAL Prices unchanged. The market tone was weak with asking prices for next week 9 cents lower on jumbo, 6-7 cents lower on extra large, 7 cents lower on large, and 8 cents lower on medium. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings ample.

CALIFORNIA Prices unchanged. The market tone was weak with asking prices for next week 9 cents lower on jumbo, 7 cents lower on extra large and large, and 8 cents lower on medium and small. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings ample. Small benchmark price 53. Easter ads: Southern California: major- large dozen 99; smaller outlets- extra large 20 pack 3 for \$5, large 18 pack 148, medium 20 pack 99; Northern California: major- large dozen 99, 18 pack 2 for \$4, buy 1 get 1 free; smaller outlets- large dozen 99.

CALIFORNIA California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	106
EXTRA LARGE	97
LARGE	87
MEDIUM	73

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	78-95
EXTRA LARGE	76-85
LARGE	74-77
MEDIUM	60-63

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	249-259
EXTRA LARGE	219-289
LARGE	149-219
MEDIUM	189-205

CENTRAL REGION BREAKING STOCK All prices were unchanged. Demand was light with offerings adequate for current needs. Floor stocks closely balanced to fully adequate. Schedules full-time to reduced. Trade sentiment mostly steady to instances barely steady.

Prices in cents per dozen, delivered to breakers, 48 lb. minimum net weight per 30 dozen case, eggs from table egg layers. Packaging may vary.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	22-25	23-25
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	12-16	13-15
CENTRAL STATES AREA: AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK Mostly prices were lower when compared to early week trading. Trade sentiment was cautious and barely steady. Demand was light with buyers closely watching further market developments. Supplies were adequate, but not burdensome for mixed processing schedules. Cases broken in the Eastern region for the week ending 19-Mar-05 were about the same as last week, although 1 percent higher than the same week a year ago.

Prices in cents per dozen, delivered to breakers, 48 lb. minimum net weight per 30 dozen case, eggs from table egg layers. Packaging may vary.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	22-26	23-25
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	11-18	12-15
EASTERN REGION AREA: AL,CT,DE,FL,GA,KY,ME,MD,MA,MS,NH,NJ,NY,NC,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV		

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - W/E 19-MAR-05 (LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,293,097	31,080	12,494	6,679	2,237	4,507
PW	1,274,049	31,496	11,715	6,643	2,473	4,543
LY	1,160,324	28,714	10,452	5,909	1,983	4,002
% CHG PW	1	-1	7	1	-10	-1
% CHG LY	11	8	20	13	13	13
2005	13,681,465	328,697	132,465	70,653	30,350	48,169
2004	12,757,012	302,567	122,398	68,644	28,640	44,886
% CHG YTD	7	9	8	3	6	7

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE - (INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	42.35	42.70	42.30
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	38.86	39.13	38.85

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized salt yolk and whites were too few to report. Trade sentiment was about steady to instances barely steady for whole egg and mostly steady for whites and yolk as most observers felt liquid markets were close to settling. Offerings adequate to fully adequate for all liquid products although whole egg availability was in a more manageable position than last week. Demand was fair for whole egg with buyers willing to purchase at current levels as sellers reduced output and concentrated on regular commitments. White and yolk demand was fairly good. Breaking stock prices were lower when compared to the past week's reported prices.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00 AM non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK
WHOLE	7	20-22	20.93	-.88
WHITES	16	20-23	21.56	-.33
YOLKS	13	38-42	41.12	-2.38

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Frozen whole egg and white prices ranged 2 to 3 cents lower with sugared and salted yolk unchanged. Trade sentiment was barely steady for whole egg and whites and generally steady for sugared and salted yolk. Demand was seasonally fair for whole egg and whites and fair to fairly good for frozen yolk products. Floor stocks were closely balanced for all frozen egg products with many processors indicating some additional interest in beginning to build inventories. Central States breaking stock prices were lower when compared to the past week's reported prices.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

TRUCKLOTS	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	35-38	37
WHITES	37-38	
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	53.5-58	54-56
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	51-55	51-52

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Majority prices were unchanged on salt yolks, unchanged to higher on whites, unchanged to lower on whole and sugar yolks when compared to the previous week's trading. Buyers were still limiting purchases and watching further market developments. Supplies and offerings were balanced to available. Demand was seasonal and reported as light. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 19-MAR-2005 were 1% less than the previous week, but 6% more than a year earlier.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb containers)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	(MIN. 25 CONT.) MOSTLY	LTL RANGE
WHOLE	33-41	36-40	42-46
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		55-75
WHITES	34-41	36-39	42-49
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	50-57	52-56	59-63
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	48-55	51-53	56-61
(/) - Whole plus yolk plus sweetener, generally 20-32% egg solids.			

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices 2 cents lower on whole, 1 cent lower on whites and yolks. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 3/19 was 12% more than the previous week. Frozen demand fair with freezer stocks ample.

Wholesale selling prices, f.o.b. shipping point (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	41-44
WHITES	42-45
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	59-62
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	57-60

NATIONAL DRIED EGG Mostly prices were unchanged on blends, lower on albumen, unchanged to lower on yolks, and unchanged to higher on whole when compared to a week earlier. Demand and trading was mostly light. Supplies were sufficient for trade needs. The undertone was generally steady on yolks, soft and barely steady on whole, and about steady to steady with some caution noted on albumen. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending 19-Mar-2005 were 10% less than the previous week, but 13% more than last year. The total year to date production on dried eggs produced were 6% higher than a year earlier.

Wholesale selling prices, dollars per lb., in containers, Trucklot and less-than-trucklot volumes.

WHOLE	1.30-1.60	MOSTLY	1.34-1.42
YOLKS	1.30-1.45	MOSTLY	1.34-1.40
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	2.20-2.55	MOSTLY	2.33-2.40
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.23-1.65	MOSTLY	1.30-1.40

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR MAR 18, 2005-MAR 24, 2005

CURRENT LOADS	115.50	FUTURE LOADS	38.00	TOTAL LOADS	153.50
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CLASS	SE		NE		MW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W XL	—	—	—	—	—	31.00	4.00
GNR W 1	33.00	29.00	34.50	36.11	—	28.33	14.75
GNR W 2	—	—	—	33.33	—	—	3.00
GNR W 3	—	—	—	29.00	—	—	1.00
GNR BR 1	—	37.00	—	—	—	—	7.00
GL W J	—	—	—	—	26.75	—	4.00
GL W XL	—	45.14	43.40	46.27	37.40	—	31.50
GL W LG	—	47.73	40.88	42.40	30.50	—	25.75
GL W MD	34.00	—	29.65	27.71	20.19	23.63	10.50
GL W SM	25.50	28.00	23.50	25.50	21.33	24.33	6.00
NRBS - 48	22.78	23.29	—	24.50	21.90	24.42	67.00
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	18.00	19.50	1.00

CLASS	SC		NW		SW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GL W J	—	—	—	—	39.00	41.00	5.00
GL W XL	33.50	42.07	—	—	43.50	41.00	9.25
GL W LG	—	41.82	—	—	41.50	40.83	8.75
GL W MD	18.67	32.50	—	—	—	25.60	4.25
NRBS - 48	—	23.00	—	—	—	—	4.00
NRBS - 42	17.50	18.50	—	—	—	—	2.00

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT-MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL

WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS

(INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week ago. Demand was at least moderate with offerings of spent hens fully adequate for current trade needs. Processing schedules were normal to instances less than normal. Trade sentiment was steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	3-13	8-11

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Costs of disposal were too few to report. Demand was light for fully adequate to ample offerings of light hens. Schedules were set according to a slow to fair call for processed volume. Trade sentiment was at least steady on salvage costs.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Removal costs ranged unchanged. Demand was fair to fairly good with offerings fully adequate to mostly ample as producers make flock adjustments for post Easter production. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-12	5.5-8.5

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules generally full. Offerings ample.

SHELL EGGS-COMBINED REGIONAL

MAR 25 2005

Average prices on sales to volume buyers, Grade A Large or better, White eggs in cartons, delivered warehouse, cents per dozen.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	57.50	56.00	41.00
SOUTHEAST	56.50	54.50	40.00
MIDWEST	49.00	46.50	34.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	61.50	59.50	43.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	56.37	54.36	39.91

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Trading was too few to report on heavy canners; lower on lights when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to no better than fair for light canners; heavy canners were fair to moderate with most supplies of heavy canners being used internally. Offerings were fully adequate for light canners; generally adequate for heavy canners. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. The undertone was steady to about steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
26-30 MAJORITY 27-30	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
28-33 MAJORITY 29-31	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 19-MAR-05
(PRELIMINARY)

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
Head	1,385	1,402	2,787
Last Week	1,720	1,317	3,037
Same week yr ago	1,283	1,338	2,621
To-date/2005	15,920	14,321	30,241
To-date/2004	14,020	13,984	28,004

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
Head	218	0	218
Last Week	261	7	268
Same week yr ago	377	0	377
To-date/2005	3,350	11	3,361
To-date/2004	2,747	28	2,775

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
Head	1,603	1,402	3,005
Last Week	1,981	1,324	3,305
Same week yr ago	1,660	1,338	2,998
To-date/2005	19,270	14,332	33,602
To-date/2004	16,767	14,012	30,779

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending March 12, 2005		Year-To-Date		
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
Liquid	258	239	2,121	1,496
Frozen	0	0	0	0
Dried	0	45	61	134
Total	258	284	2,182	1,630

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Week Ending March 12, 2005		Year-To-Date		
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
Liquid	107	88	1,743	1,084
Frozen	44	0	255	332
Dried	0	80	300	631
Total	151	168	2,298	2,047

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

Week Ending March 12, 2005		Year-To-Date		
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
Jumbo	33	0	33	50
Extra Large	850	0	1,800	2,910
Large	1,390	800	7,460	9,893
Medium	1,590	1,500	9,525	7,530
Ungraded	120	0	1,622	13,478
Misc	0	0	2,263	0
Total	3,983	2,300	22,703	33,861

1/ Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

2/ Includes revisions to previous week(s).

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch.

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT

Mar 22, 2005

Prices paid per dozen Grade A Brown eggs in cartons delivered store door.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE	95	92	69	47
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	88-92	85-89	57-61	39-43
MOSTLY	90-91	87-88	59-60	41-42
RHODE ISLAND	94-98	91-95	68-72	46-50
MOSTLY	94	91	68	46
VERMONT	97-100	94-95	69-75	-
MOSTLY	97	94	69	-

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - Selected Centers

(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	Frozen Eggs/LBS	Turkeys/LBS	Processed other Poultry/LBS
AM 03/21/05	3,395	96,777	46,421
AM 03/01/05	3,601	88,108	41,709
CHG	-206	8,669	4,712
PCT CHG	-6%	10%	11%

MONTHLY COLD STORAGE REPORT

(In Units of 1,000)

	31-Jan 2004	31-Jan 2005	29-Feb 2004	28-Feb 2005
FROZEN EGGS:				
Whites	2,870	2,843	2,900	2,903
Yolks	1,149	954	1,119	719
Whole & Mixed	12,423	11,600	13,914	11,552
Unclassified	4,862	3,180	3,205	2,691
Total Frozen Eggs	21,304	18,577	21,138	17,865

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COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT

(Receipts From Producers)

W/E 19-Mar-2005	CASES	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
REGIONS	(IN THOUS)	PW	LY
North Atlantic	246	-1	2
East North Central	643.4	2	10
West North Central	307.6	3	7
South Atlantic	225.8	3	1
South Central	67.5	-4	-3
West	227.4	3	20
Total	1717.7	2	8

Matched Plants reporting Previous week 86

Last year 85

Areas Covered: North Atlantic (ME,VT,MA,RI,CT,NH,NY,PA,NJ,MC,DE)

East North Central (WI,IL,MI,OH,IN) West North Central (IA,MN,MO,KS,SD)

South Atlantic (SC,NC,VA,GA,FL,KY) South Central (TN,AL,AR,MS,OK)

West (CA,CO,WA,OR,UT)

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 19-Mar-2005

Selected Consuming Centers	CW	LW	PERCENT CHANGE	
	(Thousands)		LW	LY
Atlanta	31.1	27.7	12	24
Boston	4.6	4.3	7	39
Chicago	101.0	76.3	32	41
Detroit	28.3	33.4	-15	11
Kansas City	7.8	4.3	81	160
Los Angeles	97.9	110.6	-11	13
New Orleans	8.4	6.5	29	0
New York	34.6	32.6	6	22
St. Louis	23.8	16.2	47	52
San Francisco	22.8	19.6	16	13
Total	360.3	331.5	9	25
4 Week Moving Avg.	332.1			

CHICKENS AND EGGS**February Egg Production Up 3 Percent**

U.S. egg production totaled 6.91 billion during February 2005, up slightly from last year. Production included 5.90 billion table eggs, and 1.01 billion hatching eggs, of which 956 million were broiler-type and 58 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 2005 averaged 349 million, up 3 percent from a year earlier. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,980 eggs, down 3 percent from February 2004.

All layers in the U.S. on March 1, 2005, totaled 349 million, up 3 percent from a year ago. The 349 million layers consisted of 289 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 57.1 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.64 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on March 1, 2005, averaged 71.4 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from a year ago.

February 2005 contained 28 days, while February 2004 contained 29 days due to the leap year.